

REMARKS

The Applicants note that the Office Action Summary does not acknowledge the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 18, 2004. Acknowledgment is respectfully requested.

The disclosure is objected to at page 1, line 4. The specification is amended herein to overcome the objection. Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 of commonly owned U.S. Patent Number 6,744,270 in view of Pfahnl, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,717,115). A Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming the term of any patent issuing on the present application that would extend beyond the term of the 6,744,270 patent is enclosed. Accordingly, Patent Number 6,744,270 is not available as a double-patenting reference. Accordingly, it is believed that the double patenting rejection is overcome, and reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Claims 17-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Olsen, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,545,494). In view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks, the rejections are respectfully traversed, and reconsideration of the rejections is requested.

Referring to Figure 1 of the present application, the invention includes a temperature controller 12 which couples a temperature-controlled fluid from a source 16 through a hose 18 to a heater 20, enclosed within a test system 14. The heater applies heat to the temperature-controlled fluid before it enters a temperature-controlled platform 26, which is used to control the temperature of a device 24 being tested. The claims are amended herein to clarify the features of the invention. Specifically, the claims are amended to specify that the fluid heater 20 is in the test system 14, but is external to the platform 26 and is located between the source 16 and the platform 26. These amendments to the claims clarify the invention and patentably distinguish the Olsen, *et al.* patent.

Referring to Olsen, *et al.*, a temperature controller 24 routes a temperature-controlled fluid through a thermal interface 26 which can include, for example, tubes for circulating the

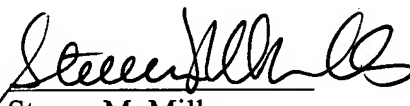
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Amendment dated September 30, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of June 30, 2004

temperature-controlled fluid through a thermal chuck 14 which supports a workpiece 16. The tubes 26 are connected directly between the temperature controller 24 and the chuck 14, which is considered analogous to the applicants' claimed platform 26. Therefore, there is no intervening heater between the temperature controller and the platform in Olsen, *et al.*, as set forth in the amended claims. Accordingly, it is believed that the amended claims distinguish Olsen, *et al.*, and, therefore, reconsideration of the rejections of claims 17-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Olsen, *et al.* is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendments to the specification and the claims and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully solicited. If a telephone conference will expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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